

3

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL 746 759 511 US

Date of Deposit 2/20/02

Our File No. 9281-4288
Client Reference No. N US00130

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Naoya Hasegawa et al.)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
Filing Date: Herewith)
For: Exchange Coupled Film Having Improved)
Current-Carrying Reliability and Improved)
Rate of Change in Resistance and)
Magnetic Sensing Element Using Same)

11046 U.S. PTO
10/079292
02/20/02

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1 – A4 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

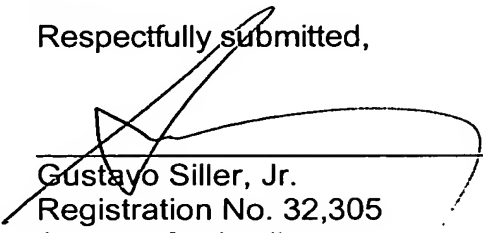
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is

hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Gustavo Siller, Jr.
Registration No. 32,305
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200

FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	To be Assigned	9281-4288
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
Herewith		
APPLICANTS: Naoya Hasegawa et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	6,046,892	04/2000	Aoshima et al.		
	A2	6,141,191	10/2000	Lee et al.		
	A3	6,222,707 B1	04/2001	Huai et al.		
	A4	6,258,468 B1	07/2001	Mahvan et al.		

11046 U.S. PTO
 10/079292
 08/28/02

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.